

SEP 16 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 1269
Yataro ICHIKAWA : Docket No.
Serial No. 09/869,904 : Group Art Unit 1754
Filed 07/09/2001 : Examiner Jonas N. Strickland, Esq.

EXHAUST GAS TREATING METHOD AND APPARATUS THEREOF, AND
VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH THE APPARATUS

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of September 9, 2004 in which
Restriction has been required, Applicant hereby elects Group I, i.e., Claims
1-14, 16 and 18-21 drawn to the apparatus.

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By Yataro Ichikawa

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September 16, 2004